

## CUTTING BACK EDUCATION IS BAD BUSINESS

(Mr. WISE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, here we go again today, another temporary spending bill, or CR, continuing resolution, as it is known. The Republican leadership promised to run Congress like a business. What kind of business can operate this way, where it is now in the sixth month of its budget year, the 1996 year, but still has not passed a final 1996 budget, and is now holding hearings on the 1997 budget?

Mr. Speaker, this is the 10th temporary spending bill this year. This one is for a week. We are not sure what is next, perhaps a day, perhaps 3 hours. Maybe just run the Government from lunchtime to quitting time and then vote again.

Mr. Speaker, whether it is 1 month or 1 hour, the fact is this temporary spending bill continues an already extreme message: stiff cuts in vital education programs. In West Virginia, it means 226 teachers and 90 aides laid off in 2 weeks. It is going to mean 6,500 students next year that will not be able to take advantage of the vital title I program. Cutting back education? What kind of business is this?

## THE BUDGET DOES MAINTAIN EDUCATION

(Mrs. KELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, my head tells me to balance the budget but my heart tells me to do it compassionately. Despite all the rhetoric that we have heard over the past week, the budget policies we have been fighting for maintain the Federal commitment to our children.

Over the past year, I have had the pleasure to visit schools and child care facilities all over my district. Visits to the John Jay High School, the Fox Lane Middle School, the Poughkeepsie Magnet Schools, the Hawthorne Cedar-Knolls School, and the Katonah Country Children's Center, just to name a few, underscore the importance of our efforts to support all aspects of education and child care.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle want all of us to believe that we are gutting education, that we are imposing inappropriate cuts to programs which serve our children. Mr. Speaker, I have to ask, how compassionate is it to continue to tax and spend, policies that have left our children a legacy of debt? How compassionate is it to pump millions of dollars into hundreds of programs of education that may actually not work? Compassion is not necessarily measured in dollars and cents, but the manner in which we spend those dollars. It is important. I think this institution may have forgotten that fact.

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## GOOD LUCK TO SAN JOSE STATE AND SANTA CLARA IN NCAA TOURNAMENT

(Ms. LOFGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today is the first day of March Madness, the NCAA Basketball Tournament, and I am proud to announce that two local teams from Santa Clara County are participating in this event: San Jose State University, which will face off against Kentucky in about an hour, and my law school alma mater, Santa Clara University, which will take on Maryland tomorrow. I share the excitement of all the students from these schools, and I congratulate the team coaches, Stan Morrison and Dick Davey.

I want to take this opportunity, while the national spotlight is focused on our college athletes, to point out that some of these basketball players, and many more of their fans, rely on Federal loans to attend school. The omnibus appropriations bill that just passed the Congress reduces student aid, including Pell grants and Perkins loans, by yet another 13 percent, raising costs for thousands of students in California, and precluding others from even attending college.

Mr. Speaker, I needed help to go to college, and I know that students today need it even more. I also know that this country needs educated employees to compete in the global marketplace. Many Members are rooting for their teams this weekend; I urge them to support the schools that produce these teams as well. Go Spartans. Go Broncos.

## WORKING TO KEEP GOVERNMENT RUNNING AND TO PRODUCE A BALANCED BUDGET

(Mr. JONES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, the 1996 Presidential campaign games are in full swing. While the Republicans continue to work toward a balanced budget to fulfill last year's promise, the President wants Congress to spend an additional \$8 billion on a host of Federal programs. Most of these programs are to appease his liberal constituents in order to shore up his tax-and-spend liberal base.

The President has requested \$2 million for the Ounce of Prevention Council. This 2-year-old program has not administered one single grant during its existence.

Mr. Speaker, we will do everything we can to keep the Government running and to work with the President to produce a balanced budget, but we will not continue to decorate the national budget like a Christmas tree with the President's pet projects. We will not

borrow money from our children's future for this kind of wasteful spending.

## SPUTTERING CONGRESS TO LEAVE TOWN WITH WORK UNDONE

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, this is a Congress that operates in spurts, and it is sputtering today as its Members head home for yet another extended weekend with the work of this country not done. The reason that that has occurred, and the reason that this is a Congress of near total failure, is that we have got a Speaker of the House who rejects any meaningful bipartisanship, and we have a whole lot of Members in the Republican Caucus who seem to think that working to achieve common ground to solve the real problems of working families in this country is somehow a sin.

Who bears the brunt of this failed Congress? It is the children of our country. It is the 12,000 Texas children to whom this Republican leadership says, "No Head Start for you. We will give you the wrong start," not the Head Start to be advancing within our society. It is the same Republican leadership that says to over 2,000 pre-kindergarten students in my home of Austin, TX, "You get half the kindergarten that you would otherwise get because we are not going to give you educational opportunity."

We Democrats say more educational opportunities. These Republicans say more education obstacles.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH AT WORST POINT IN NATION'S HISTORY

(Mr. KIM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I keep hearing from the White House that our economy is booming. I really have trouble with this. The folk in my district, none of them said our economy is booming. They do not feel this.

The fact is, the economy growth has slowed to 1.47 percent a year, the worst period of growth in our Nation's history. That is the fact. The average family has lost about 1 percent of its buying power since Mr. Clinton took office. The wages rose at the slowest pace in 14 years, and they tell me the economy is booming.

Folks in my district are having difficulty right now trying to make ends meet and every day they are squeezed more and more. They are telling people that the economy is booming? I know it is election time, but I think we should be more honest with the American people.

## GOP EDUCATION CUTS FORCE SCHOOLS TO MAKE TERRIBLE CHOICES

(Mrs. SCHROEDER asked and was given permission to address the House